



**For Immediate Release
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**STATE TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON DRAFT
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CHESTNUT HILL RESERVATION**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will present the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Chestnut Hill Reservation during a public meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Circle Cinema, 399 Chestnut Hill Avenue, in Brookline. DCR staff and the project consultant will provide an overview of the RMP, field questions and take comments during the meeting.

“This Draft Resource Management Plan is the result of an extensive planning process founded on solid inventory and analysis, as well as careful consideration of management goals and objectives,” said DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington. “The RMP Working Group and the general public also helped in the Plan’s development by bringing other perspectives and concerns to the table.”

The findings and recommendations of the Draft RMP were based on fieldwork by the consultant team as well as input from the Working Group, data collected from a user survey, and comments from the first public meeting on the project, which was held in November, 2005. Priority findings range from deteriorating historic features and loss of landscape character to issues of parking, access and protection of natural resources. The recommendations of the Draft RMP are supplemented by an analysis of three potential levels of management and associated capital and operating needs.

The public meeting will also include an overview of possible early action projects that could be implemented this year. Preliminary recommendations for early action include treatment of the 1928-1929 iron picket fence, rehabilitation of the pathways, and vegetation management.

The public participation process will be supplemented by input from the Chestnut Hill Reservation RMP Working Group comprised of representatives from various residential and civic organizations, local governments and the state government.

Funding for the Chestnut Hill Reservation Resource Management Plan was provided by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) Office of Public Private Partnerships, with additional support from Boston College and Waterworks Development, LLC.

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DCR will accept public comment on the draft Chestnut Hill Reservation RMP until May 5, 2006. The Draft RMP is available for review on the DCR Resource Management Plan Program website at <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/rmp/rmp-chHill.htm> with deadlines and submission instructions noted.

For more information, contact DCR Preservation Planner Wendy Pearl at 617-626-1389.

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